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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/834,264	04/12/2001	Rahav Yairi	5288.00005	2757

22907 7590 09/22/2004

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EXAMINER

PATEL, ASHOKKUMAR B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2004

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/834,264

Applicant(s)

YAIRI, RAHAV

Examiner

Ashok B. Patel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Application Number 09/834, 264 was filed on 04/12/2001. Claims 1-13 are subject to examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless-

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Levosky (US 2002/0087641 A1).

Referring to claim 1,

The reference teaches a method of routing electronic mail messages to a user with a server, the method comprising the steps of: (1) receiving at a mail server an electronic mail message having a destination address; (2) receiving from a user at the mail server an identification of a main electronic mail address and at least one alias electronic mail address; (3) comparing the destination address to the main and at least one alias electronic mail addresses; and (4) transmitting the electronic mail message to an address determined as a result of the comparing step. (page 1, para. [0016], page 3, para. [0049]).

Referring to claim 2,

The reference teaches the method of claim 1, wherein step (4) comprises: transmitting the electronic mail message to the destination address when the destination address is indicated as a main address; and transmitting the electronic mail message to a main address when the destination address is indicated as an alias address corresponding to the main address. (page 2, para. [0040], The reference teaches that "The Alias Email server will only send messages to clients registered to use the service provided by the Alias-Email Server.", page 3, para. [0047], The reference teaches that "It is generally recommended that the user create a new address whenever a new Website request for an Email address is made, so that the user can distinguish between responses from different vendors. Thus, additional alias Email addresses can be generated corresponding to the same user name, with or without different text features and TYPE selections. Thus, the database may contain more than one alias user record corresponding to the same user name. However, no two alias user records may contain the same alias Email address." Thus the reference teaches that user is in control of specifying to the system at which address the user would like to forward the incoming emails, whether it is a main address or an alias address corresponding to the main address.)

Referring to claim 3,

The reference teaches a method of providing an electronic mail service to users, the method comprising the steps of: (1) registering a main electronic mail address for a user; (2) providing at least one alias electronic mail address to the

user; and (3) delivering electronic messages addressed to the main address and electronic mail messages addressed to the at least one alias address to a single electronic mail inbox. (page 3, para. [0049], page 1, para. [0019] and [0020])

Referring to claim 4,

The reference teaches the method of claim 3, further including the step of: (4) allowing the user to manage the at least one alias electronic mail address. (page 2, para. [0040], The reference teaches that "The Alias Email server will only send messages to clients registered to use the service provided by the Alias-Email Server.", page 2, para. [0042] and page 3, para. [0043], [0044], [0045], [0046] and [0047])

Referring to claim 5,

The reference teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the allowing steps comprises allowing the user to delete alias electronic mail addresses. (page 2, para. [0022])

Referring to claim 6,

The reference teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the allowing steps comprises allowing the user to add alias electronic mail addresses. (page 1, para. [0019] and [0020])

Referring to claim 7,

The reference teaches the method of claim 3, further including the step of providing a record of electronic messages sent by and received by the at least one alias electronic mail address. (page 1, para. [0017])

Referring to claim 8,

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The reference teaches the method of claim 7, further including the step of displaying electronic messages received by the at least one alias electronic mail address. (page 1, para. [0017], page 4, para.[0061])

Referring to claim 9,

The reference teaches the method of claim 3, further including the step of providing the main electronic mail address to the user. (page 2, para.[0042], the reference teaches "Referring now to FIG. 3, the user enters a user name, which may be anything the client desires, into box 220, and an actual (physical) Email address already in use in EMAIL ADDRESS box 202. The user must retype his Email address again in box 204, as an error reduction technique.")

Referring to claim 10,

The reference teaches an electronic mail server configured to perform the steps of: (1) receiving an electronic mail message having a destination address; (2) comparing the destination address to addresses included in a database of main and alias electronic mail addresses; and (3) transmitting the electronic mail message to an address determined as a result of the comparing step. (page 3, para.[0049]).

Referring to claim 11,

The reference teaches the mail server of claim 10, wherein step (3) comprises: transmitting the electronic mail message to the destination address when the destination address is indicated as a main address in the database; and transmitting the electronic mail message to a main address when the destination address is indicated as an alias address corresponding to the main address in

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the database.(page 2, para.[0040], The reference teaches that "The Alias Email server will only send messages to clients registered to use the service provided by the Alias-Email Server.", page 3, para.[0047], The reference teaches that "It is generally recommended that the user create a new address whenever a new Website request for an Email address is made, so that the user can distinguish between responses from different vendors. Thus, additional alias Email addresses can be generated corresponding to the same user name, with or without different text features and TYPE selections. Thus, the database may contain more than one alias user record corresponding to the same user name. However, no two alias user records may contain the same alias Email address." Thus the reference teaches that user is in control of specifying to the system at which address the user would like to forward the incoming emails, whether it is a main address or an alias address corresponding to the main address.)

Referring to claim 12,

Claim 12 is a claim to a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of: comparing a destination address of an electronic mail message to addresses included in a database of main and alias electronic mail addresses; and readdressing the electronic mail message to a main address when the destination address is indicated as an alias address corresponding to the main address which includes the method taught by the reference on page 2, para[0039].

Referring to claim 13,

The reference teaches an electronic mail system comprising: an electronic mail

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server configured to perform the steps of: (1) receiving an electronic mail message having a destination address; (2) comparing the destination address to addresses included in a database of main and alias electronic mail addresses; and (3) transmitting the electronic mail message to an address determined as a result of the comparing step; and a computer coupled to the electronic mail server and including computer executable instructions that allow a user to send electronic mail messages from more than one electronic mail address with a single user interface.(page 4, para.[0015] thru [0023] and [0070] thru 0075)).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (703) 305-2655. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A Follansbee can be reached on (703) 305-8498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.



JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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